



U.S. Department of Justice
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PRESS RELEASE

February 4, 2005

MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

RE: UNITED STATES v. JERRY STEARNS

Michael A. Battle, the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, announced that Jerry Stearns, age 32, of 35 Spring Street, Seneca Falls, New York, pled guilty in front United States District Court Judge David G. Larimer to possessing child pornography in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A(a)(5), which charges a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 10 years and a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years, a \$250,000 fine, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who is handling the case, stated that the defendant on January 8, 2004, the defendant possessed images of child pornography on a computer. Some of the child pornography images depicted pre-pubescent children or minors under twelve years old.

The defendant is currently serving a 6-year state sentence of imprisonment for an attempted criminal sexual act, first degree, from Seneca County, New York. Because of this conviction, the defendant is subject to at least a 10-year sentence when he is sentenced in federal court for his possession of child pornography.

The conviction in this case were the culmination of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Ahearn.

Sentencing for Stearns is scheduled for May 6, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in front of Judge Larimer.

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